
From: Coats, Robert
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2013 1:18 PM
Subject: New AQS Server and Data Certification

To All,

AQS was migrated over the weekend to a new server at the EPA National Computer Center. It is now up and available for use. In the long term, this should improve the performance significantly; however, there are some reports that are running slower than expected (e.g. AMP255 – Data Quality Indicator Report). We will be working to optimize these as soon as possible. If you encounter any difficulties, please let us know ASAP. (email EPACALLCENTER@epa.gov or phone 866-411-4372).

Also, the new Data Certification components were deployed to production this weekend. This consists of a new report, AMP600 – Data Certification Report, and a new Certification form. Training for these were provided by the webinars last week, which are posted on the web at “<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/airs/airsaqs/training/>”. We will also be publishing a tutorial soon.

Data Certification Background: The Code of Federal Regulations Part 58.15 specifies the requirements for data certification. **The new process this year is targeted to Criteria Pollutants only; please use the new report and form for criteria pollutants, and use the prior process (with the AMP450NC report) for other pollutants.**

1. Preliminary: The new certification process has been organized around “Certifying Agencies”. These have been defined in AQS for each criteria pollutant monitor, based on information from the EPA Regional Offices, as to the agencies that submitted certification letters for 2010 and 2011. These Certifying Agency assignments can be seen on the Maintain Monitor form and the AMP390 – Monitor Description Report. Each Certifying Agency point of contact is requested to review the monitors assigned to your agency, and to use AQS to correct any issues.
2. The new Data Certification Report provides a recommendation either for or against certification based on monitoring completeness and the quality requirements in 40 CFR Part 58 Appendix A. The recommended process for certifying agencies is to conduct a the following cycle until any anomalies are either corrected or fully explained:
 - a. First, run the AMP600 report (from the AQS menu Retrieval / Standard Reports), to see the recommendations for and against certification for each monitor assigned to your agency. Note: If any monitors are missing or if extra monitors are present, use AQS to correct the Certifying Agency for the monitor.
 - b. For all monitors with a ‘N’ recommendation. Review and correct any issues that should be fixed. For example, a monitor might show < 75% complete because its sample period in AQS has not been adjusted to reflect the period when the monitor was actually sampling.
 - c. Run the AMP600 report again to verify that the fixed issues now result in a ‘Y’ recommendation for the monitor.
 - d. Repeat as necessary.
3. Use the Certification form to set the “Monitoring Agency Requested” value for each monitor, and enter an explanation for cases where you are requesting a value that is different than the AQS Recommended value.
4. Run the AMP600 report a final time. It will show your requested values. Attach to your certification letter to send to the EPA Regional Office.

At Your Service,

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